



Useful Care Tips

POTTING SOIL

One of the most critical requirements to having a healthy plant that produces lots of new growth and an abundance of flowers is having the right soil. Whether it be a potting mix or garden soil, it is the foundation for having a good plant. For Hydrangeas, the soil pH will often impact the flower colour. For Runaway Bride® Hydrangea, due to the flowers being a clear white, a soil pH of neutral or slightly more alkaline is ideal. For potting mixes, select a premium quality all-purpose mix.

FERTILISER

Garland Hydrangeas, like Runaway Bride®, often require more fertiliser than macrophylla types. Garland Hydrangeas should be fertilised weekly with a liquid fertiliser. Alternatively, slow-release fertilisers can be applied monthly. Apply fertilisers from September through to January for the best results.

Aluminium fertilisers or 'blue Hydrangea feeds' can be applied to maintain a brilliant white flower. These specialised fertilisers can be applied several times throughout the active growing season.

WINTER HARDINESS

Garland Hydrangeas are hardy to -20°C , and these chilling temperatures are common where this stunning variety has been bred. As for Australian conditions, Runaway Bride® will easily tolerate our milder winters. If grown in areas that are subject to heavy frost, protecting shoots in late winter is ideal as Runaway Bride® often produces new season shoots very early in spring, unlike other Hydrangeas. As for the Australian summer, Runaway Bride® will happily grow in a part-shaded position where it has protection from hot westerly winds.



PRUNING

Garland Hydrangeas, in principle, should not be pruned. After their blooming season in early summer, long basal shoots form. These shoots will produce flowers at the tips, but if they are left unpruned, they will produce flowers along their whole length in the second year. Each basal shoot can reach lengths of a metre, but no longer. Once they reach their mature length, shoots will side branch resulting in more inflorescences.

If plants become too big or old shoots become senescent, pruning should be done right after their flowering season. If plants are pruned too late after flowering, there is a risk of losing the next year's flowering buds.





LANDSCAPE USES

Garland Hydrangeas, such as Runaway Bride®, are wonderful container specimens due to their flowing floral displays. Decorate patios, balconies, courtyards or entertainment areas. Runaway Bride's® unique growth makes it a special ornamental plant in taller containers or planted into extra large hanging baskets.

For a short period during their flowering season, plants can be kept indoors near a window or in a brightly lit area so their flowers can be enjoyed.

In gardens, garland Hydrangeas are a true splendour and can be used as a feature plant or planted in groupings or rows for informal hedging, line pathways to create garden rooms or en masse displays.

Due to the garland growth habit, Runaway Bride® Hydrangea can be grown on a trellis to beautify bare walls or fences. To achieve this look, basal shoots can be tied to any form of climbing aid; wite, trellis etc.

